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Contribution by Harijans in Block Development areas

* 960 *Q.*—Sri L. ANANDAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have considered or have under consideration the desirability of collecting only 25 per cent of the cost of scheme from the Harijans in Block Development areas?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Yes, Sir. Ample discretion has been given to the concerned officers."

Cycle-rickshaws in Kancheepuram

* 961 *Q.*—Sri S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation from the owners of cycle-rickshaws at Kancheepuram that the plying of such rickshaws has been prohibited by the Police?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Representations were received in November 1954 that cycle-rickshaws in Kancheepuram were prevented from plying without three-speed gear hubs. Thereupon, the relevant orders of Government in the matter were brought to the notice of the officers concerned. It has since been reported that licences have been issued to all the cycle-rickshaws in Kancheepuram without insisting on the three-speed gear hubs being fitted and they are plying without any hindrance."

Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Did the Government conduct any endurance test in respect of the hand-pulled rickshaw and the cycle-rickshaw before trying to eliminate the hand-pulled rickshaw? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" This is a different question altogether. The Government are examining that question."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM:—" சென்னையிலும், காஞ்சிபுரத்திலும் 3-ஸ்பீட் கீர் ஹப் கொடுக்காது வருஷா வருஷம் சைக்கிள் ரிக்ஷாக்களுக்கு லைசென்ஸ் கொடுக்கும்போது தகராறு ஏற்படுத்திக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இப்படியெல்லாம் நிர்பந்திக்காமல் சர்க்கார் லைசென்ஸ் கொடுக்க முன் வருவார்களா ? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" இந்த முறை லைசென்ஸ் கொடுத்தாகிவிட்டது. மார்ச் மாதம் 1-ம் தேதிவரை ஒரு விதமான தகராறும் ஏற்படுவதற்கில்லை. இதற்குள் 3-ஸ்பீட் கீர் ஹப்புகளை ஒரு கம்பெனி சப்ளை செய்துவிடும். அப்படியில்லையென்றால் சர்க்கார் இதைப்பற்றி ஆலோசிக்கும்."

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is the riding by couples allowed in these rickshaws? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" When they go for a very important and urgent purpose, we do not want to separate the husband and the wife."

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SRI M. JAGANNATHAN :—" How many cycle-rickshaws are plying in Kancheepuram ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" About one hundred."

P.C.C. Society, Irikkur, Kottayam taluk

* 962 *Q*.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the local M.L.A. and others regarding the alleged misappropriation and mismanagement of the Irikkur Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society ; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) A report was called for from the Collector of Malabar. He reported that an enquiry into the affairs of the Irikkur Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Co-operative Society had already been ordered under section 38 of the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 1932, that criminal proceedings had already been instituted for misappropriation of the funds of the society and that the Board of Directors had taken steps to convene general body meetings but that no meeting could be held as there was no quorum. In the circumstances the Government considered that no further action was called for. The M.L.A. who made the representation was also informed accordingly."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know the amount misappropriated and whether the person concerned is a Congressman ? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The amount is nine thousand rupees. I do not know whether the person concerned belongs to the Congress or the Praja Socialist Party, or any other party."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Are the Government aware that this society has long been managed by a party supported by Communists ? "

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir. It is not supported by the Communist Party."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I presume the Hon. Member Sri Kurup's information must be correct."